

TONOPAH DAILY BONANZA

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THE LONG TRAIL.

There are still to be written many chapters of how the motor car has affected our daily life, for it has by no means reached the limits of its usefulness. Of late it is being put to a new use. It has given us an individual known as the automobile camper. This follower of the open road differs from the automobile tourist whom we have had with us for some time, in which the latter merely uses his automobile to take him from a hotel in one city to another. The automobile camper is a different kind of package.

He carries with him, beside his family, an ingenious camping outfit of his own devising. In tents at the roadside or on the banks of a little stream they spend the night and here the smell of fried bacon and coffee fills the morning air. There is no particular destination nor do they travel on schedule. The road slipping by, mile on mile, a glimpse of wide plain and hills beyond; the strange, noises of the night in quiet places these are the simple but enduring joys of the lower of the open road. For parking in the world would they not change a month's outing of this kind.

Surely the automobile has immeasurably increased our opportunities for wholesome enjoyment.

ENDING A "COMMERCIAL WRECK."

In forecasting the disposal of destruction by October 1 of all wooden ships and the sale of other government-owned tonnage as soon as good business judgment dictates, Albert D. Lasker, new head of the United States shipping board, characterized this as "the greatest commercial wreck in the history of mankind."

Though the mess is so bad, it is satisfying that the decision is to the purpose of getting out of it and taking the loss, great though it will be. Of course we had to have ships and we had to build them at whatever the cost. However, the greatest blunder was made in building so many of a class of ships that were fitted neither to the conditions of the time nor afterward. At the time that the construction of wooden ships was proposed there was protest against such a course, but as in so many other policies under the administration then in power, the most wasteful plan was adopted. Had carriers only of the most approved commercial type been built under war conditions, the loss at best would have been great. The unwisdom exhibited in the construction of great numbers of wooden vessels adds heavily to the burden of the taxpayers.

The design of getting rid of the entire outfit of government-owned ships is gratifying. The board has been losing \$10,000,000 a month and while this cannot be ended at once it will cease when the ships are sold or broken up. That Mr. Lasker has regard for public funds is evidenced by his canceling shipping board advertising contracts, which, he says, is comparatively like shooting 26 cents but he wants to save the 20 cents. Under the old policy there would have been concern lest it be not spent. Though the government ownership of ships be ended soon, the loss incurred will form a part of our taxes for long.

BASEBALL AIDED BY EXPOSURES.

Although, as sporting writers express it, baseball got a "black eye" as a result of the exposure of dishonesty in connection with the playing of the world's series in Cincinnati and Chicago in 1919, the favorite sport of Americans was not permanently injured. Immediately following the disclosures of crookedness there may have been a temporary loss of confidence in some circles but the ingrained faith of all of us that the great mass of baseball players is composed of men of sterling character who are too upright to betray the public and their mates and employers was too strong to permit the game to remain long under a cloud. Recently there has been more concern lest the proceedings against the players implicated might prove futile as a result of a motion to quash the indictments on technical grounds. But this feature of the case has now been obliterated by the action of the court to refuse to permit such action and ordering the trials to proceed. But, if it should have so happened

ARABS PAID TO KEEP PEACE BY BRITISH GOVT.

(By Associated Press)

LONDON, July 15.—A novel working arrangement on the "no peace, no pay" principle has been entered into by the British government with the Wahabi, a powerful Arabian desert tribe. The Wahabi are nomads and belong to a sect which Colonial Secretary Winston Churchill described in the house of commons as "bearing the same relation to orthodox Islam as the most militant forms of Calvinism would have borne to Rome in the fiercest times of the religious wars."

They are, he said, austere, intolerant, well armed and bloodthirsty, and they regard it as an article of duty as well as of faith to kill all who do not share their opinions. Moreover, they are very dangerous to the holy cities of Mecca and Medina, and the whole institution of the pilgrimage.

The finances of the shereef of Mecca, who enjoys British protection have suffered grievously by the interruption of the pilgrimages. Therefore, to assist him and King Hussein of the Hedjaz, who has been in constant warfare with the "Arabian Caliphates," the latter are to receive 60,000 pounds cash annually so long as they refrain from annoying their neighbors and do not interfere with the candidacy of Hussein's son, the Emir Feisal, for the rulership of the new Mesopotamian state.

Colonel Lawrence of the colonial office who has lived among the Wahabi for years, told an interviewer that they were indeed a most violent people. They are, he said, fanatically Mohammedan and would kill their men and women for smoking even a cigarette. The way they correct their women is to tie them up in bags and beat them unmercifully with palm fronds.

Each man has three wives. Should any of them go out of doors, the code allows him to have her put to death. This is because they believe that if any other man looks at her she is contaminated and that if a woman goes outside her home she is certain to go wrong.

Wearing a silk dress or any costly finery, precious stones or metals,

THE ROMANCE OF WORDS

"CANARD."

IN ENGLISH the word "canard" is used to signify a faltered, sensational story—something made up "out of the whole cloth," a verbal bomb usually sprung at the last moment so that there will not be time successfully to contradict it. But "canard," in French, means a duck. There doesn't appear to be much connection between the two—but there is. In fact the whole thing goes back to ducks, twenty of them.

Norbert Cornelissen, a Frenchman who lived during the last century, determined to experiment with the credulity of the public and reported to the newspapers that he had a flock of ducks, two-score in number, of which he took one, cut it into small pieces and threw the bits to the other nineteen, which devoured them ravenously. Then, scarcely giving the ducks time to get hungry, Cornelissen repeated the experiment and was once more successful. "In an amazingly short space of time," he declared, "the flock was reduced to a single duck, which had eaten his nineteen brothers."

Scientists and naturalists argued about the matter for some days through the columns of the Parisian papers. Then Cornelissen confessed that the whole thing was a hoax. There had never even been a flock of ducks, just the one that he kept for purposes of exhibition. But the report had gained so much publicity that the phrase "duck story" was implanted in French slang, much as "fish story" is an accepted colloquialism in English. "Canard" became synonymous with hoax and, instead of being translated, the word was adopted bodily into English in its present sense.

Mexico's idea of disarmament seems to be to take one pistol away from each of its two-gun soldiers. It is also a penal offense.

"In no sense are they a decadent people," Colonel Lawrence concluded. "They are virile and as austere as they are bloodthirsty and brave. It should be cheap at 60,000 pounds a year to buy their good will and to keep them quiet."

The latter view, however, does not meet with universal acceptance. Many taxpayers would prefer to see the end of all British commitments in Mesopotamia.

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